

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1-5 and add new claims 6-20 as follows:

1. (currently amended) ~~A crate as substantially disclosed herein.~~ A collapsible container having a first upright position for holding items and a second folded compact position for storage, wherein said container comprises:
 - a. a bottom panel 2;
 - b. a top frame 3;
 - c. two side panels 4, 5, said side panels being pivotally connected to opposite ends of the top frame 3;
 - d. a front folding panel 6 comprising upper 10 and lower 8 ends and pivotally connected upper 24 and lower 25 panel sections, said front folding panel 6 being pivotally connected to the top frame 3 at its upper end 10 and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel 2 at its lower end 8;
 - e. a back folding panel 7 comprising upper 11 and lower ends 9 and pivotally connected upper 24 and lower 25 panel sections, said back folding panel 7 being pivotally connected to the top frame 3 at its upper end 11 and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel 2 at its lower end 9;
 - f. at least one L-shaped extending panel 36 formed integral with the upper panel section 24 of the front folding panel 6;
 - g. at least one L-shaped extending panel 36 formed integral with the upper panel section 24 of the back folding panel 7;
 - h. at least one receiving groove 37 formed in the lower panel section 25 of the front folding panel 6; wherein said receiving groove 37 engages the L-

shaped extending panel 36 of the front folding panel 6 when the container 1 is in the upright position; and

- i. at least one receiving groove 37 formed in the lower panel section 25 of the back folding panel 7; wherein said receiving groove 37 engages the L-shaped extending panel 36 of the back folding panel 7 when the container 1 is in the upright position; wherein

engagement between the L-shaped extending panels 36 and receiving grooves 37 prevents the lower 24 and upper 25 panel sections of the front 6 and back 7 folding panels from folding outward when the container 1 is in the upright position, and wherein

the container 1 can be folded into the compact position by pivotally swinging the side panels 4,5 towards the top frame 3 and folding the front 6 and back 7 folding panels inward to cause the container 1 to collapse to the compact position.

2. (currently amended) ~~A collapsible container comprising~~ The container of Claim 1, wherein:

~~a. a bottom panel;~~

~~b. a top frame;~~

~~c. at least two side panels, said side panels being pivotally connected at opposite ends of the frame; and~~

~~d. at least one front folding panel and at least one back folding panel, said front folding panel and said back folding panel each comprising at least one lower end and at least one upper end, wherein the front folding panel and back folding panel are pivotally connected to the top frame. the bottom panel 2 comprises a base 15 and a shallow border wall 14 extending orthogonal and upward from the base 15, and wherein said border wall 14 comprises opposite first and second side walls 16, 17 and opposite back and front walls 18, 19.~~

3. (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 2, wherein ~~the front folding panel and back folding panel are pivotally connected at their respective lower ends to the bottom panel.~~ the front wall 18 comprises a central hinge coupling panel 32 that pivotally connects with a pin rod formed on the lower end 8 of the front folding panel 6.

4. (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 2, wherein ~~the front folding panel and back folding panel are pivotally connected at their respective upper ends to the top frame.~~ the back wall 19 comprises a central hinge coupling panel 33 that pivotally connects with a pin rod formed on the lower end 9 of the back folding panel 7.

5. (currently amended) The collapsible container of claim 2, ~~wherein the collapsible container is foldable to a low profile by swinging the side panels up toward the top frame.~~ further comprising a first aperture **20a** and a second aperture **20b** disposed in the first sidewall **16**, and a first aperture **21a** and a second aperture **21b** disposed in the second sidewall **17**, each of said apertures **20a**, **20b**, **21a**, **21b** being disposed proximal to a corner of the border wall **14**.
6. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 5, further comprising first and second hinge pins disposed respectively in the first **20a** and second **20b** apertures of the first sidewall **16**, wherein the first hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel **6** and the second hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel **7**.
7. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising third and fourth hinge pins disposed respectively in the first **21a** and second apertures **21b** of the second sidewall **17**, wherein the third hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel **6** and the fourth hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel **7**.
8. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, wherein each of the upper panel sections **24** comprises a first mating hinge notch **26** at their respective lower edges **28** that pivotally connects with a second mating hinge notch **27** disposed at the respective upper edges **29** of each of the lower panel sections **25**.

9. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising a pair of hinge notches **23a**, **23b** disposed in the back wall **19**, wherein each hinge notch, **23a**, **23b** connects pivotally with the back folding panel **7** via a hinge pin.
10. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising a pair of hinge notches **22a**, **22b** disposed in the front wall **18**, wherein each hinge notch, **22a**, **22b** connects pivotally with the front folding panel **6** via a hinge pin.
11. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising at least one central hinge coupling panel **33** disposed in the back wall **19**, wherein said central hinge coupling panel **33** pivotally connects with the back folding panel **7**.
12. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising at least one central hinge coupling panel **32** disposed in the front wall **18**, wherein said central hinge coupling panel **32** pivotally connects with the front folding panel **6**.
13. (New) The collapsible container of claim 1, wherein the top frame **3** comprises a front frame wall **40**, a back frame wall **41** and a first sidewall **42** and a second sidewall **43**.
14. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 13, further comprising at least one hinge notch **22** and at least one hinge coupling panel **23** disposed in the back frame wall

- 41, wherein said hinge notch 22 and hinge coupling panel 23 interface pivotally with the back folding panel 7.
15. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 13, further comprising at least one hinge notch 22 and at least one hinge coupling panel 23 disposed in the front frame wall 40, wherein said hinge notch 22 and hinge coupling panel 23 interface pivotally with the front folding panel 6.
16. (New) The collapsible container of Claim 2, further comprising a first and a second recessed portion 45a, 45b each comprising an aperture and being formed in the front frame wall 40, said first and second recessed portions 45a, 45b being disposed adjacent a corner of the top frame 3 wherein the first recessed portion 45a pivotally connects to an upper edge of the first side panel 4 and the second recessed portion 45b pivotally connects to an upper edge of the second side panel 5.
17. (New) A collapsible container having a first upright position for holding items and a second compact position for storage, comprising:
- a. a top frame 3;
 - b. a bottom panel 2;
 - c. a first side panel 4 pivotally connected to the top frame 3;
 - d. a second side panel 5 pivotally connected to the top frame 3;

- e. a front folding panel 6 comprising upper 10 and lower 8 ends and pivotally connected upper 24 and lower 25 panel sections, said front folding panel 6 being pivotally connected to the top frame 3 at its upper end 10 and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel 2 at its lower end 8;
- f. a back folding panel 7 comprising upper 11 and lower ends 9 and pivotally connected upper 24 and lower 25 panel sections, said back folding panel 7 being pivotally connected to the top frame 3 at its upper end 11 and being pivotally connected to the bottom panel 2 at its lower end 9;
- g. at least one L-shaped extending panel 36 formed integral with the upper panel section 24 of the front folding panel 6;
- h. at least one L-shaped extending panel 36 formed integral with the upper panel section 24 of the back folding panel 7;
- i. at least one receiving groove 37 formed in the lower panel section 25 of the front folding panel 6; wherein said receiving groove 37 engages the L-shaped extending panel 36 of the front folding panel 6 when the container 1 is in the upright position; and
- j. at least one receiving groove 37 formed in the lower panel section 25 of the back folding panel 7; wherein said receiving groove 37 engages the L-shaped extending panel 36 of the back folding panel 7 when the container 1 is in the upright position; wherein

engagement between the L-shaped extending panels 36 and receiving grooves 37 prevents the lower 24 and upper 25 panel sections of the front 6 and back 7 folding panels from folding outward when the container 1 is in the upright position.

18. (New) The collapsible container of claim 17, wherein the container 1 can be folded into the compact position by pivotally swinging the first and second side panels 4, 5 towards the top frame 3 and folding the front 6 and back 7 folding panels inward to cause the container 1 to collapse to the compact position.

19. (New) A method for folding a collapsible container comprising a top frame, a bottom panel, a first side panel and a second side panel, a front folding panel and a back folding panel, comprising the steps of:

- a. applying pressure to the first side panel 4 to pivotally swing the first side panel 4 towards the top frame 3;
- b. applying pressure to the first second panel 5 to pivotally swing the second side 5 panel towards the top frame 3;
- c. applying pressure to the front folding panel 6 to fold the front folding panel 6 inward; and
- d. applying pressure to the back folding panel 7 to fold the back folding panel 7 inward to cause the container 1 to collapse to a compact configuration; wherein

the pivot axes of the first and second side panels **4, 5** are disposed above the pivot axes of the front folding panel **6** and back folding panel **7**.

20. (New) A collapsible container comprising:

- a. a bottom panel **2**, wherein said bottom panel **2** comprises a base **15** and a shallow border wall **14** extending orthogonal and upwardly from the base **15**; said shallow border wall **14** comprising a first sidewall **16** and second sidewall **17** disposed opposite to one another, and a back wall **18** and a front wall **19** disposed opposite to one another;
- b. a front folding panel **6** comprising an upper panel section **24** and a lower panel section **25**, wherein said upper panel section **24** comprises a first mating hinge notch **26** that pivotally connects with a second mating hinge notch **27** disposed in the lower panel **25**;
- c. a pair of hinge notches **22a, 22b** disposed in the front wall **16**, wherein each hinge notch pivotally connects to the front folding panel **6**;
- d. a back folding panel **7** comprising an upper panel section **24** and a lower panel section **25**, wherein said upper panel section **24** comprises a first mating hinge notch **26** that pivotally connects with a second mating hinge notch **27** disposed in the lower panel **25**;
- e. a pair of hinge notches **23a, 23b** disposed in the back wall **19** wherein each hinge notch pivotally connects to the back folding panel **7**;

- f. at least a first aperture and a second aperture disposed in the first sidewall, and at least a first aperture and a second aperture disposed in the second sidewall, each of said apertures being disposed proximal to a corner of the border wall;
- g. first and second hinge pins disposed respectively in the first and second apertures of the first sidewall, wherein the first hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel 6 and the second hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel 7;
- h. third and fourth hinge pins disposed respectively in the first and second apertures of the second sidewall, wherein the third hinge pin is connected to the front folding panel 6 and the fourth hinge pin is connected to the back folding panel 7;
- i. at least one central hinge coupling panel 33 disposed in the back wall 19, wherein said central hinge coupling panel 33 pivotally connects to the back folding panel 7;
- j. at least one central hinge coupling panel 32 disposed in the front wall 18, wherein said central hinge coupling panel 32 pivotally connects with the front folding panel 6;
- k. at least one L-shaped extending panel 36 formed integral with the upper section 26 of the front folding panel 6 and at least one L-shaped extending panel 36 formed integral with the upper section 26 of the back folding panel 7;

- l. at least one recess **37** formed integral with the bottom section **25** of the front folding panel **6**; wherein said recess **37** interfaces with the L-shaped extending panel **36** of the front folding panel **6**;
 - m. at least one recess **37** formed integral with the bottom section **25** of the back folding panel **7**, wherein said recess **37** interfaces with the L-shaped extending panel **36** of the back folding panel **7**;
 - n. a top frame **3** comprising a front frame wall **40** a back frame wall **41**, and a first sidewall **42** and second sidewall **43** disposed opposite to one another;
 - o. at least one hinge notch **22** and at least one hinge coupling panel **23** disposed in the back frame wall **41**, wherein said hinge notch **22** and hinge coupling panel **23** interface with the back folding panel **7**;
 - p. at least one hinge notch **22** and at least one hinge coupling panel **23** disposed in the front frame wall **40**, wherein said hinge notch **22** and hinge coupling panel **23** interface with the front folding panel **6**;
 - q. a first and a second recessed portion **45a**, **45b** each comprising an aperture and being formed in the front frame wall **40**, said first and second recessed portions **45a**, **45b** being disposed adjacent a corner of the top frame **3**, wherein the first recessed portion **45a** pivotally connects to an upper edge **10** of the first side panel **4** and the second recessed portion **45b** pivotally connects to an upper edge **11** of the second side panel **5**; wherein
- the pivot axes of the side panels **4**, **5** are disposed above the pivot axes of the front folding panel **6** and back folding panel **7** and the container can be folded by

pivotaly swing the side panels towards the top frame and then folding the front folding panel and back folding panel inward to cause the frame to collapse to a compact configuration.

In the Drawings:

Please enter the replacement drawing sheets marked Replacement Drawing Sheets 1-4, concurrently submitted herewith.